WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   For use in a video display system capable of displaying a

2   video program, a system for creating a multimedia summary of said

3   video program, said system comprising:

4   a multimedia summary generator capable of obtaining a

5   transcript of the text of said video program and capable of

6   obtaining audio-video segments of said video program,

7   wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of

8   combining portions of said transcript and portions of said audio-

9   video segments to create a multimedia summary of said video

10   program.

1   2.   The system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said multimedia

2   summary generator is capable of creating said multimedia summary by

3   selecting an audio-video segment that relates to a topic of said

4   video program, and by adding said topic and said audio-video

5   segment to said multimedia summary.

1   3.   The system as claimed in Claim 2 wherein said multimedia

2   summary generator comprises:

3   a controller capable of executing computer software

4   instructions contained within a memory coupled to said controller

5   to create said multimedia summary of said video program by

6   identifying at least one topic cue in said transcript of said video

7   program, and by selecting at least one audio-visual template

8   associated with said at least one topic cue, and by adding said

9   topic cue and said audio-visual template to said multimedia

10   summary.

1   4.   The system as claimed in Claim 3 wherein said controller

2   is capable of executing computer software instructions contained

3   within a memory coupled to said controller to create said

4   multimedia summary of said video program by identifying at least

5   one subtopic cue for said at least one topic of said video

6   program, and by selecting at least one audio-visual template

7   associated with said at least one subtopic cue, and by adding said

8   subtopic cue and said audio-visual template to said multimedia

9   summary.

1   5.   The system as claimed in Claim 3 wherein said controller

2   is capable of executing:

3   a domain identification application capable of identifying a

4   type of said video program;

5   a topic cue identification application capable of identifying

6   at least one topic cue in said transcript of said video program;

7   a   subtopic   cue   identification   application   capable   of

8   identifying at least one subtopic cue in said at least one topic

9   of said video program; and

10   an audio-visual template identification application capable of

11 identifying at least one audio-visual template associated with said

12 at least one topic cue, and capable of identifying at least one

13 audio-visual template associated with said at least one subtopic

14 cue.

1   6.   The system as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said controller

2   is capable of executing computer software instructions contained

3   within a memory coupled to said controller to create an entry point

4   for each topic that will allow a viewer to access each topic in

5   said multimedia summary, and to create an entry point for each

6   subtopic that will allow a viewer to access each subtopic in said

7   multimedia summary.

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7.   A video display system capable of creating a multimedia summary of a video program, said video display system comprising:

a multimedia summary generator capable of obtaining a transcript of the text of said video program and capable of obtaining audio-video segments of said video program,

wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of combining portions of said transcript and portions of said audio-video segments to create a multimedia summary of said video program.

8.   The video display system as claimed in Claim 7 wherein said multimedia summary generator is capable of creating said multimedia summary by selecting an audio-video segment that relates to a topic of said video program, and by adding said topic and said audio-video segment to said multimedia summary.

1   9.   The video display system as claimed in Claim 8 wherein

2   said multimedia summary generator comprises:

3   a   controller   capable   of   executing   computer   software

4   instructions contained within a memory coupled to said controller

5   to   create   said   multimedia   summary   of   said   video   program   by

6   identifying at least one topic cue in said transcript of said video

7   program,   and   by   selecting   at   least   one   audio-   visual   template

8   associated with said at least one topic cue, and by adding said

9   topic   cue   and   said   audio-visual   template   to   said   multimedia

10 summary.

1   10.   The video display system as claimed in Claim 9 wherein

2   said   controller   is   capable   of   executing   computer   software

3   instructions contained within a memory coupled to said controller

4   to   create   said   multimedia   summary   of   said   video   program   by

5   identifying at least one subtopic cue for said at least one topic

6   of said video program, and by selecting at least one audio-visual

7   template associated with said at least one subtopic cue, and by

8   adding said subtopic cue and said audio-visual template to said

9   multimedia summary.

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1   11.   The video display system as claimed in Claim 9 wherein

2   said controller is capable of executing:

3   a domain identification application capable of identifying a

4   type of said video program;

5   a topic cue identification application capable of identifying

6   at least one topic cue in said transcript of said video program;

7   a subtopic cue identification application capable of

8   identifying at least one subtopic cue in said at least one topic

9   of said video program; and

10   an audio-visual template identification application capable of

11   identifying at least one audio-visual template associated with said

12   at least one topic cue, and capable of identifying at least one

13   audio-visual template associated with said at least one subtopic

14   cue.

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1 12. The video display system as claimed in Claim 10 wherein

2 said controller is capable of executing computer software

3 instructions contained within a memory coupled to said controller

4 to create an entry point for each topic that will allow a viewer to

5 access each topic in said multimedia summary, and to create an

6 entry point for each subtopic that will allow a viewer to access

7 each subtopic in said multimedia summary.

1 13. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a

2 video program, a method for creating a multimedia summary of said

3 video program, said method comprising the steps of:

4 obtaining a transcript of the text of said video program in a

5 multimedia summary generator;

6 obtaining audio-video segments of said video program in said

7 multimedia summary generator; and

8 combining portions of said transcript and portions of said

9 audio-video segments in said multimedia summary generator to create

10 said multimedia summary of said video program.

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1   14.   The method as claimed in Claim 13 wherein the step of

2   combining portions of said transcript and portions of said audio-

3   video segments in said multimedia summary generator to create said

4   multimedia summary of said video program comprises:

5   selecting an audio-video segment that relates to a topic of

6   said video program; and

7   adding said topic and said audio-video segment to said

8   multimedia summary.

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1   15.   The method as claimed in Claim 14 further comprising the

2   steps of:

3   receiving in a multimedia summary generator instructions from

4   computer software stored in a memory coupled to said multimedia

5   summary generator;

6   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

7   generator to identify at least one topic cue in said transcript of

8   said video program;

9   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

10   generator to select at least one audio-visual template associated

11   with said at least one topic cue; and

12   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

13   generator to add said topic cue and said audio-visual template to

14   said multimedia summary.

1   16.   The method as claimed in Claim 15 further comprising the

2   steps of:

3   receiving in a multimedia summary generator instructions from

4   computer software stored in a memory coupled to said multimedia

5   summary generator;

6   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

7   generator to identify at least one subtopic cue for said at least

8   one topic of said video program;

9   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

10   generator to select at least one audio-visual template associated

11   with said at least one subtopic cue; and

12   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

13   generator to add said subtopic cue and said audio-visual template

14   to said multimedia summary.

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1   17.   The method as claimed in Claim 15 further comprising the

2   steps of:

3   identifying a type of said video program with a domain

4   identification application;

5   identifying at least one topic cue in said transcript of said

6   video program with a topic cue identification application;

7   identifying at least one subtopic cue in said at least one

8   topic of said video program with a subtopic cue identification

9   application;

10   identifying at least one audio-visual template associated with

11   said at least one topic cue with an audio-visual template

12   identification application; and

13   identifying at least one audio-visual template associated with

14   said at least one subtopic cue with said audio-visual template

15   identification application.

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1   18.   The method as claimed in Claim 16 further comprising the

2   steps of:

3   receiving in a multimedia summary generator instructions from

4   computer software stored in a memory coupled to said multimedia

5   summary generator;

6   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

7   generator to create an entry point for each topic that will allow a

8   viewer to access each topic in said multimedia summary; and

9   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

10   generator to create an entry point for each subtopic that will

11   allow a viewer to access each subtopic in said multimedia summary.

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1 19. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a

2 video program, computer-executable instructions stored on a

3 computer-readable storage medium for creating a multimedia summary

4 of said video program, the computer-executable instructions

5 comprising the steps of:

6   obtaining a transcript of the text of said video program in a

7 multimedia summary generator;

8   obtaining audio-video segments of said video program in said

9 multimedia summary generator; and

10   combining portions of said transcript and portions of said

11 audio-video segments in said multimedia summary generator to create

12 said multimedia summary of said video program.

1 20. The computer-executable instructions stored on a

2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 19 wherein the

3 step of combining portions of said transcript and portions of said

4 audio-video segments in said multimedia summary generator to create

5 said multimedia summary of said video program comprises:

6   selecting an audio-video segment that relates to a topic of

7 said video program; and

8   adding said topic and said audio-video segment to said

9 multimedia summary.

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1   21. The computer-executable instructions stored on a

2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 20 further

3 comprising the steps of:

4   receiving in a multimedia summary generator instructions from

5 computer software stored in a memory coupled to said multimedia

6 summary generator;

7   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

8 generator to identify at least one topic cue in said transcript of

9 said video program;

10   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

11 generator to select at least one audio-visual template associated

12 with said at least one topic cue; and

13   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

14 generator to add said topic cue and said audio-visual template to

15 said multimedia summary.

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1   22. The computer-executable instructions stored on a

2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 21 further

3 comprising the steps of:

4   receiving in a multimedia summary generator instructions from

5 computer software stored in a memory coupled to said multimedia

6 summary generator;

7   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

8 generator to identify at least one subtopic cue for said at least

9 one topic of said video program;

10   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

11 generator to select at least one audio-visual template associated

12 with said at least one subtopic cue; and

13   executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

14 generator to add said subtopic cue and said audio-visual template

15 to said multimedia summary.

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1   23. The computer-executable instructions stored on a

2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 21 further

3 comprising the steps of:

4   identifying a type of said video program with a domain

5 identification application;

6   identifying at least one topic cue in said transcript of said

7 video program with a topic cue identification application;

8   identifying at least one subtopic cue in said at least one

9 topic of said video program with a subtopic cue identification

10 application;

11   identifying at least one audio-visual template associated with

12 said at least one topic cue with an audio-visual template

13 identification application; and

14   identifying at least one audio-visual template associated with

15 said at least one subtopic cue with said audio-visual template

16 identification application.

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1 24. The computer-executable instructions stored on a

2 computer-readable storage medium as claimed in Claim 22 further

3 comprising the steps of:

4 receiving in a multimedia summary generator instructions from

5 computer software stored in a memory coupled to said multimedia

6 summary generator;

7 executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

8 generator to create an entry point for each topic that will allow a

9 viewer to access each topic in said multimedia summary; and

10 executing said instructions in said multimedia summary

11 generator to create an entry point for each subtopic that will

12 allow a viewer to access each subtopic in said multimedia summary.

1 25. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a

2 video program, a multimedia summary of a video program comprising

3 at least one audio-visual segment of said video program.

1 26. The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2 Claim 25 further comprising at least one portion of a transcript of

3 said video program.

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1   27. The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 25 comprising at least one audio-visual segment of said video

3   program that relates to at least one topic of said video program.

1   28. The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 27 comprising at least one audio-visual segment of said video

3   program that relates to at least one subtopic in said at least one

4   topic of said video program.

1   29. The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 25 wherein said multimedia summary is capable of displaying

3   one of:

4   text from said video program, audio from said video program, a

5   single video frame from said video program, a video segment

6   comprising a series of video frames from said video program, and

7   an audio-visual segment comprising audio from said video program

8   and a series of video frames from said video program.

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1   30.   The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 27 comprising a plurality of audio-visual segments of said

3   video program, wherein each of said plurality of audio-visual

4   segments relates to a topic of said video program.

1   31.   The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 30 further comprising a topic entry point associated with

3   each of said plurality of audio-visual segments that relates to a

4   topic, in which each topic entry point allows a viewer to access

5   the audio-visual segment associated with said topic.

1   32.   The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 30 comprising a plurality of audio-visual segments of said

3   video program, wherein each of said plurality of audio-visual

4   segments relates to a subtopic of a topic of said video program.

1   33.   The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2   Claim 32 further comprising a subtopic entry point associated with

3   each of said plurality of audio-visual segments that relates to a

4   subtopic, in which each subtopic entry point allows a viewer to

5   access the audio-visual segment associated with said subtopic.

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1   34. For use in a video display system capable of displaying a

2 video program, a multimedia summary of a video program comprising

3   a plurality of audio-visual segments of said video program

4 that relate to at least one topic of said video program; and

5   at least one topic entry point associated with said plurality

6 of audio-visual segments that relate to said at least one topic of

7 said video program, in which said at least one topic entry point

8 allows a viewer to access the plurality of audio-visual segments

9 associated with said topic.

1   35. The multimedia summary of a video program as claimed in

2 Claim 34 further comprising

3   a plurality of audio-visual segments of said video program

4 that relate to at least one subtopic of said at least one topic of

5 said video program; and

6   at least one subtopic entry point associated with said

7 plurality of audio-visual segments that relate to said at least one

8 subtopic of said at least one topic of said video program, in which

9 said at least one subtopic entry point allows a viewer to access

10 the plurality of audio-visual segments associated with said

11 subtopic.

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1 36. The method as claimed in Claim 13, said method further

2 comprising the steps of:

3 obtaining an image of a face of a person in said video program

4 with audio-visual template identification application after said

5 person first appears in said video program;

6 subsequently confirming the identity of said person by

7 checking at least one identifying characteristic of said person;

8 and

9 adding said image of said person to said multimedia summary

10 after the identity of said person has been confirmed.

1 37. The method as claimed in Claim 36 wherein said at least

2 one identifying characteristic of said person comprises one of:

3 an identification of the face of said person, an

4 identification of the voice of said person, and a name plate of

5 said person.

1 38. The method as claimed in Claim 36 wherein at least one

2 identifying characteristic of said person comprises an

3 identification of the face of said person and an identification of

4 the voice of said person.